

IOWA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®



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Mr. Michael K. Powell, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Dear Chairman Powell:

I would like your **support** for the merger that **is** currently before the Federal Communications Commission between **EchoStar and DirecTV**. In **many rural Iowa communities**, dependable **and** competitive television service **is** a challenge. **Many** homeowners have little or no ability to receive local television programming, **and** if they do, they are limited to one cable provider.

The **proposed** merger of **EchoStar and DirecTV** would change this scenario for rural **Iowans** by making more choices and solutions available to the general public. **As** a REALTOR®, I hear consumers **asking** about high-speed Internet access and **technology** features for their homes, **and in most rural Iowa areas these options are** currently not available.

A proposal like **this** merger would deliver competitive technology to even the most remote locations, instantly **allowing** some of our **smaller** businesses **and** individuals **to compete in the global marketplace**.

I believe **this approval** of this merger could literally make a world of difference for **some** communities in **Iowa**.

Sincerely,

Steinhilber Realty  
Iowa City, IA



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